## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

LIABILITY LITIGATION (NO. VI)	
ANN BECKWITH, ADMINISTRATOR	)
FOR THE ESTATE OF ROBERT	)
BECKWITH AND ANN BECKWITH	)
PERSONALLY,	)
Plaintiffs,	) EDPA File No. 2:10-CV-78942
	)
V.	)
	) USDC, DISTRICT OF CONN.
GENERAL ELECTRIC CO., ET AL.,	) Civil Action No. 3:09-CV-00216-AW7
	)
Defendants.	)
	October 26, 2010

IN RE: ASBESTOS PRODUCTS

DEFENDANT AIR & LIQUID SYSTEMS CORPORATION, AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BUFFALO PUMPS, INC.'S ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES, CROSS-CLAIMS AGAINST ALL CO-DEFENDANTS, ANSWER TO ALL CROSS-CLAIMS, AND JURY DEMAND

## **FIRST COUNT**

- 1. Air & Liquid Systems Corporation, as Successor by Merger to Buffalo Pumps, Inc.<sup>1</sup> (Buffalo Pumps) is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 1 of the Complaint and therefore leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 2. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 2 of the Complaint and therefore leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Buffalo Pumps, Inc. merged into Air & Liquid Systems Corporation on December 31, 2009. The prior operations of Buffalo Pumps, Inc. now are conducted by the Buffalo Pumps Division of Air & Liquid Systems Corporation.

- 3a. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 3a of the Complaint and therefore leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
  - 3b. Buffalo Pumps admits the allegations in Paragraph 3b of the Complaint.
- 4. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 4 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 5. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 5 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 6. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 6 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7a. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7a of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or

knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.

- 7b. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7b of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7c. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7c of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7d. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7d of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7e. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7e of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7f. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7f of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.

- 7g. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7g of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7h. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7h of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7i. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7i of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7j. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7j of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7k. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7k of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 7l. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 7l of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or

knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.

- 8. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 8 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 9. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 9 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 10. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 10 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 11. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 11 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 12. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 12 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.

- 13. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 13 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 14. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 14 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 15. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 15 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 16. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 16 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 17. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 17 of the Complaint and therefore leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.

#### **SECOND COUNT**

18. Buffalo Pumps repeats and realleges every response to the allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 17 as if fully set forth herein.

- 19. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 19 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 20. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 20 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 21. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 21 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.

## THIRD COUNT

- 22. Buffalo Pumps repeats and realleges every response to the allegations of Paragraphs 1 through 21 as if fully set forth herein.
- 23. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 23 of the Complaint and therefore leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.
- 24. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 24 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.

25. Buffalo Pumps denies the allegations in Paragraph 25 of the Complaint to the extent the allegations relate to Buffalo Pumps. Buffalo Pumps is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations as they relate to other Defendants and leaves the plaintiff to her proof at trial.

## **GENERAL DENIAL**

Buffalo Pumps denies each and every allegation of the Complaint that is not expressly admitted therein.

## AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

## FIRST DEFENSE

This defendant states that this action is barred by the applicable statutes of limitations and repose.

## **SECOND DEFENSE**

This defendant states that if the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent suffered damages as alleged in the Complaint, such damages were caused by someone for whose conduct this defendant was and is not legally responsible.

### THIRD DEFENSE

This defendant states that the negligence of the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent caused or contributed to the injuries or damages alleged and such negligence should bar, or at least reduce, the plaintiff's recovery.

#### **FOURTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the plaintiff failed to give proper notice as required by law and this defendant was prejudiced thereby.

## **FIFTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that at the time of the alleged incident, the plaintiff's decedent was guilty of a violation of law that contributed to the alleged incident.

## SIXTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that this Court lacks subject matter jurisdiction over the causes of action alleged in plaintiff's Complaint pursuant to applicable statutes.

## **SEVENTH DEFENSE**

This defendant denies that the doctrine of strict liability in tort applies to this case.

## **EIGHTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent willingly, knowingly, and voluntarily assumed the risk of the alleged illnesses and injuries for which relief is sought in this matter.

#### NINTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that the plaintiff's claims against this defendant are barred because the damages or losses experienced, if any, were not due to any act or failure to act of this defendant, but were caused solely by the acts of a third party or parties for whose acts or failures to act this defendant is not responsible.

## TENTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that it gave no warranties, express or implied, to the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent or to anyone acting on his or her behalf.

#### **ELEVENTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the plaintiff's claims based on allegations of express or implied warranty are barred for the reason that no sale of goods occurred within the meaning of the Uniform Commercial Code.

#### TWELFTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that if any of this defendant's agents or servants made any express warranties (allegations that the defendant specifically denies), then the agent or servants of this defendant did so without warranty, express or implied.

#### THIRTEENTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that if this defendant, its agents, or servants made any warranties, express or implied (allegations that this defendant specifically denies), then this defendant denies that it breached any warranty.

#### FOURTEENTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that if this defendant, its agents, or servants made any warranties, express or implied (allegations that this defendant specifically denies), then the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent did not rely on the express warranties, and further, there was no such reliance by any person or entity authorized to represent the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent.

## FIFTEENTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent failed to give notice of the alleged breaches of warranties within a reasonable time as required by applicable statutes.

#### SIXTEENTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that the plaintiff's or decedent's employer or employers were negligent with respect to the matters set forth in the Complaint, and that such negligence caused

in whole or in part whatever disease, injury or disability, if any, the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent may have sustained, as set forth in the Complaint and that plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent received worker's compensation benefits from his or her employer or employers.

### SEVENTEENTH DEFENSE

Therefore, even if plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent is entitled to recover against this defendant, which this defendant specifically denies, he or she is not entitled to recover in the amount set forth in the Complaint because this defendant is entitled to set off any and all worker's compensation payments against any judgment that might be rendered in the plaintiff's favor.

## **EIGHTEENTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the plaintiff's claims are barred by estoppel or waiver.

# NINETEENTH DEFENSE

This defendant denies that any product installed by this defendant caused injury to the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent.

#### TWENTIETH DEFENSE

This defendant denies that there was any defect or negligent mining, processing, manufacture, design, testing, investigation, fashioning, packaging, distributing, delivery, and/or sale, in any asbestos product or material referred to in the plaintiff's Complaint, but if there was any defect or negligence as alleged, then this defendant is not liable as it justifiably relied upon inspection by others in the regular course of trade and business.

#### TWENTY-FIRST DEFENSE

This defendant states that at all times and places mentioned in the Complaint, the plaintiff, plaintiff's decedent and/or other persons, without this defendant's knowledge and

approval, redesigned, modified, altered, and used this defendant's products contrary to instructions and contrary to the custom and practice of the industry. This redesign, modification, alteration, and use so substantially changed the product's character that if there was a defect in the product, which this defendant specifically denies, such defect resulted solely from redesign, modification, alteration, or other such treatment or change and not from any act or omission by this defendant. Therefore, said defect, if any, was created by the plaintiff, plaintiff's decedent and/or other persons, as the case may be, and was the direct and proximate cause of the injuries and damages, if any, that the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent allegedly suffered.

#### TWENTY-SECOND DEFENSE

This defendant states that at all times and places mentioned in the Complaint, the plaintiff, plaintiff's decedent and/or other persons used this defendant's products, if indeed any were used, in an unreasonable manner, not foreseeable to this defendant, and for a purpose for which the products were not intended, manufactured, or designed; plaintiff's or decedent's injuries and damages, if any, were directly and proximately caused by said misuse and abuse, and plaintiff's recovery herein, if any, is barred or must be diminished in proportion to the fault attributable to the plaintiff, plaintiff's decedent and/or such parties and persons.

#### TWENTY-THIRD DEFENSE

This defendant states that if it supplied any asbestos product, either directly or indirectly, to the plaintiff's or decedent's employer, the product was supplied in accordance with specifications established and promulgated by that employer, agencies or departments of the United States of America, and/or other persons and/or entities.

## TWENTY-FOURTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that any asbestos-containing products manufactured and sold by this defendant which gave rise to plaintiff's or decedent's claims herein were designed and manufactured pursuant to and in accordance with specifications mandated by the United States Government or its agencies. The knowledge of the United States Government and its agencies of any possible health hazards from use of such products was equal or superior to that of this defendant, and by reason thereof, this defendant is entitled to such immunity from liability as exists in favor of the United States Government or its agencies.

## TWENTY-FIFTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that at all relevant times hereto, the state of medical and scientific knowledge, and the state of the art or the design and manufacture of asbestos-containing products, was such that this defendant neither knew nor should have known that its products presented a significant risk of harm to the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent.

#### TWENTY-SIXTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that the plaintiff failed to mitigate damages and is, therefore, barred from recovery.

#### TWENTY-SEVENTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that if the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent was a user of tobacco products, such use contributed to any lung disease from which the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent allegedly suffers. Further, the tobacco industry placed warnings on its products notifying the public of potential hazards associated with its use, which hazards the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent knew or should have known may have adversely affected his or her health.

#### TWENTY-EIGHTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that the alleged injury or damage sustained as a result of the occupation of the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent was an occupational disease and accordingly this defendant is not liable or responsible for any occupational disease which was suffered or sustained by the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent in the course of his or her employment over a number of years.

## TWENTY-NINTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that the utility of the products manufactured by this defendant outweighed the danger allegedly involved, and, therefore, the plaintiff's claims are barred as a matter of public policy.

## **THIRTIETH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that to the extent the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent is unable to identify the manufacturer, seller, or supplier of the products that allegedly caused injury, the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent fails to state a cause of action upon which relief can be granted, since, if the relief were granted, it would contravene this defendant's constitutional rights to substantive and procedural due process as preserved by the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and by the applicable provisions of the Connecticut State Constitution and would contravene this defendant's constitutional rights to protection against the taking of property for public use without just compensation as preserved by the aforesaid constitutional provisions.

## **THIRTY-FIRST DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted to the extent that it seeks punitive or exemplary damages, which are not recoverable under applicable law.

## **THIRTY-SECOND DEFENSE**

This defendant states that an award of punitive damages against any of the defendants in this case would be unconstitutional and in violation of the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and the applicable provisions of the Connecticut State Constitution.

#### THIRTY-THIRD DEFENSE

This defendant states that there was no negligence, gross negligence, willful, wanton, or malicious conduct, reckless indifference or reckless disregard of the rights of the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent, or malice (actual, legal, or otherwise) on the part of this defendant as to the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent herein.

#### THIRTY-FOURTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that any exposure of the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent to this defendant's product or products, which this defendant vigorously denies, was so minimal as to be insufficient to establish a reasonable degree of probability that the product or products caused the plaintiff's or decedent's claimed injuries or illness.

#### THIRTY-FIFTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that the plaintiff is guilty of laches in bringing this action and is, therefore, barred from recovery.

#### THIRTY-SIXTH DEFENSE

With respect to the plaintiff's claims for alleged breaches of warranties, this defendant states that the plaintiff's claims are barred by reason of lack of privity, pursuant to General Statutes Section 42a-2-318.

#### **THIRTY-SEVENTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. Therefore, this defendant moves, pursuant to the Connecticut Rules of Civil Procedure, that this Court order the plaintiff's Complaint to be dismissed, with prejudice, and further that this Court order the plaintiff pay this defendant's costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

## **THIRTY-EIGHTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that if the plaintiff has settled with and/or released other defendants or entities who are tortfeasors, this defendant is entitled to a reduction of any judgment either in total of all the settlement amounts or the pro rata share of fault of said tortfeasors as determined by the Court or jury, whichever is greater.

#### THIRTY-NINTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that if there were express or implied warranties as alleged in the Complaint (allegations which this defendant specifically denies), the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent was not within the scope of any such alleged warranties because the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent was not a purchaser, and no sale to the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent ever occurred of any product sold or distributed by this defendant.

#### **FORTIETH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent was not a third-party beneficiary with reference to any alleged warranties, either express or implied, and, therefore, the plaintiff cannot recover in this action.

## **FORTY-FIRST DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the plaintiff's or decedent's employer(s), by their agents, servants, and employees, at all times relevant hereto, possessed a high degree of knowledge and sophistication in relation to this defendant, had superior means and ability to appreciate any alleged hazard regarding the use of asbestos-containing materials, had means and ability, superior to that of this defendant, to warn the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent, and failed to warn the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent of the alleged hazard.

# **FORTY-SECOND DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the plaintiff has released, settled, entered into an accord and satisfaction or otherwise compromised the claims herein, and, accordingly, said claims are barred by operation of law.

### **FORTY-THIRD DEFENSE**

This defendant states that the plaintiff has failed to join a party or parties necessary for the just adjudication of this matter and has omitted to state any reason for this failure.

#### **FORTY-FOURTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that it did not manufacture or sell the asbestos-containing products to which the plaintiff's decedent alleges exposure.

#### **FORTY-FIFTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that it has not, either by act or omission, violated the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §§ 52-240a, 52-240b, and 52-572m, et seq. This defendant therefore moves, pursuant to the Connecticut Rules of Civil Procedure, that this Court order the plaintiff's Complaint be dismissed, with prejudice, and further that this Court order the plaintiff pay this defendant's costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

#### FORTY-SIXTH DEFENSE

This defendant states that it is not a successor in interest to the alleged company who manufactured asbestos products to which the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent alleges exposure.

## **FORTY-SEVENTH DEFENSE**

This defendant states that due to the generality of the allegations in the Complaint, this defendant reserves the right to amend its Answer, Affirmative Defenses, Cross-Claims Against Co-Defendants, and Answer to All Cross Claims if investigation, discovery, and further information should warrant such amendment, and further, to assert any applicable matters of law while this action is pending.

# CROSS-CLAIM OF DEFENDANT/CROSS-CLAIM PLAINTIFF AIR & LIQUID SYSTEMS CORPORATION, AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BUFFALO PUMPS, INC., AGAINST ALL CO-DEFENDANTS

- 1. Plaintiff in this action has filed a Complaint against the defendant/cross-claim plaintiff alleging that the plaintiff or plaintiff's decedent has sustained certain asbestos-related diseases and other injuries, and all said allegations have been denied by the defendant/cross-claim plaintiff.
- 2. Although the defendant/cross-claim plaintiff denies all the claims set forth in the plaintiff's Complaint, in the event that the defendant/cross-claim plaintiff is found liable to the

plaintiff, then all other cross-claim defendants are liable for equitable contribution and/or statutory contribution pursuant to C.G.S. § 52-5720, and/or allocation of fault.

- 3. Only in the event the defendant/cross-claim plaintiff is found liable to the plaintiff, for purposes of this cross-claim, all allegations set forth in the plaintiff's Complaint or related third-party Complaints against said defendants are adopted and incorporated as set forth fully herein.
- 4. Only in the event that this defendant/cross-claim plaintiff is found liable to plaintiff, in whole or in part, then the cross-claim defendants are liable to this defendant/cross-claim plaintiff for all or part of plaintiff's claimed damages.

WHEREFORE, defendant/cross-claim plaintiff Buffalo Pumps claims:

- a. Contribution for plaintiff's alleged damages pursuant to C.G.S. § 52-5720;
- b. Equitable contribution from the cross-claim defendants for their share of any judgment rendered in favor of plaintiff;
- c. An allocation of responsibility among defendants; and
- d. Such other relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

# ANSWER TO ANY AND ALL CROSS-CLAIMS AGAINST DEFENDANT/CROSS-CLAIM DEFENDANT AIR & LIQUID SYSTEMS CORPORATION, AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BUFFALO PUMPS, INC.

Buffalo Pumps denies each and every allegation of each and every cross-claim that was or hereinafter may be filed against Buffalo Pumps by any co-defendants or third-party defendants.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

This defendant hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues.

Respectfully submitted, Defendant/Cross-claim Plaintiff, Air & Liquid Systems Corporation, as Successor by Merger to Buffalo Pumps, Inc.,

By: /s/Njoki K. Williams\_

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# **CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, a copy of the foregoing was filed electronically. Notice of this filing will be sent by email to all parties by operation of the court's electronic filing system, or by mail to everyone unable to accept electronic filing as indicated in the Notice of Electronic Filing. Parties may access this filing through the Court's CM/ECF System.

/s/ Njoki K. Williams\_\_\_ Njoki K. Williams